



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Legislative Updates
- Housing Opportunities in San Jose
- Information about PG&E's Energy Saving Programs
- SUCCESS Academy
- California Student Opportunity and Access Program
- Upcoming Events and Meetings
- Neighborhood Meetings
- Announcements and Updates
- Useful City Numbers
- Future Topics

Dear District 7 Residents,

Thank you to everyone who participated in our first Town Hall meeting of the year held on Thursday, March 16 at the Tully Community Library. It was a success, with close to 100 people in attendance. I listened to your concerns and will keep them in mind when making decisions for our district and our city. I encourage you to come to the next Town Hall meeting, which will be announced soon. It is always a pleasure for me to meet the people I represent and see you participate in the legislative process.

On Thursday, March 30, Vice Mayor Cindy Chavez, Councilmember Nancy Pyle, City Staff, and I joined city staff and community members to celebrate the groundbreaking of the Central Service Yard. Located on Senter Road across from Kelley Park, Central Service Yard will be a campus of buildings which will house City staff as well as a few non-profit organizations. Central Service Yard is a great addition to our district. Please stop by and take a look when you have a chance.

On April 8, Mayor Ron Gonzales and I joined close to 80 volunteers at Hubbard Elementary School to participate in the Great American Litter Pickup. I am so proud of our volunteers, students, and residents for taking time out on a sunny Saturday morning to help keep our city, particularly our district, beautiful.

It's that time of the year again. Yes, it's budget season! These upcoming weeks will be very busy for my staff and I as we try to formulate and gather important data in order to form the best budget proposal possible that will allow growth and expand opportunities in District 7. During these hectic times, I ask for your assistance. I need neighborhood associations and other community-oriented individuals to provide me with a list of your priorities as far as services and community activities for the next year. With your help, we can determine the most important issues in District 7. Remember that my staff and I are always open to your suggestions on how to make our community a great place to live.

Sincerely,

Madison P. Nguyen

Madison P. Nguyen



Central Service Yard Groundbreaking: Ed Shikada (Deputy City Manager), Councilmember Madison P. Nguyen, Vice Mayor Cindy Chavez, and Councilmember Nancy Pyle.



Mayor Ron Gonzales, Councilmember Madison P. Nguyen, and District 7 Volunteers at the Great American Litter Pickup.

Legislative Updates

At the evening session of the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, April 18, 2006, several important decisions were made by City Council:

- **American G.I. Forum Entertainment Permit Denied**

The City Council voted to deny the American G.I. Forum a permit, which would have allowed them to host a variety of functions that would have been open to the public for entertainment purposes at their assembly hall located at 765 Story Road. The expanded use would allow outside promoters to rent the building and bring different types of entertainment.

Councilmember Madison Nguyen, who represents the Council District where the G.I. Forum's assembly hall is located, made a motion to reject planning staff's recommendation to allow the entertainment permit. San Jose City Councilmembers LeZotte (District 1), Williams (District 2), Chirco (District 9), Pyle (District 10) and Mayor Gonzales voted YES on Councilmember Nguyen's motion to reject the recommendation for an entertainment permit for the American G.I. Forum. The vote was 6-5 in favor of Councilmember Nguyen's motion.

Concern for public safety was the decisive factor for Councilmember Nguyen, who is troubled with the crime rate in District 7. Several community leaders from the neighborhood associations in District 7 spoke against the planning department's recommendation, citing concerns the police department brought to the attention of the City Council.

THANK YOU Robert Sandoval, President of the West Evergreen Neighborhood Association, Carlos DaSilva, Co-Chair of the West Evergreen SNI Neighborhood Advisory Committee, and John Nguyen, Vice-President of the Kennedy Neighborhood Association for staying through a five hour-long City Council meeting and speaking on this issue. Your commitment and support is truly valuable to the residents of District 7.

- **Sunshine Reforms Task Force**

City Council approved the recommended framework for the formation of a Sunshine Reforms Task Force. The Task Force will be composed of community members that will review and recommend to the City Council a package of proposals to increase opportunities for public access to information, enhance neighborhood participation, and ensure government accountability.

- **Voter Owned Campaigns**

City Council approved the direction of the San Jose Elections Commission regarding Voter-Owned Campaigns. Voter-owned, or publicly funded campaigns, is not a new issue in the United States. In fact, Maine, Arizona, and Portland have adopted some form of public funding. Proponents of public

funding argue that by eliminating political fundraising and contributions altogether, the perceived power of special interest groups will also be removed. In addition, publicly-funded campaigns will allow candidates more focus and time with voters and the community instead of with campaign contributors. Opponents point to the issue of funding, citing a growing deficit and continual budget cuts.

The San Jose Elections Commission will soon begin taking public testimony, seeking expert advice, and explore the creation of a fully public-funded Voter-owned Campaign Ordinance for San Jose that would take effect in time to apply to the municipal primary elections in June 2008. In August, if the Commission decides to recommend the Ordinance, it will provide the Council an outline of specific recommendations to be included in the Voter-Owned Campaign Ordinance.

Housing Opportunities In San Jose

The Housing Authority of the County of Santa Clara is pleased to announce that it will be opening its Section 8 Wait List for the first time since 1999.

April 16, 2006 - INSTRUCTIONS for registering on the Wait List will be published.

April 24 to April 28, 2006 - Wait List will be open. Submit registration form on-line or via mail.

April 29, 2006 - Wait List will be closed. NO on-line registration and NO forms mailed in with postmarks on this day or later will be accepted.

Please do **NOT** contact the Housing Authority for instructions prior to April 16, 2006.

YOU CAN ALSO CALL THE HOTLINE AT 408-993-2906

PG&E's Energy Saving Programs

There are two energy saving programs that PG&E would like you to learn about. Their programs include tips, rebates, incentives, and design assistance for both your business and your home. All the information in their websites is available in English, Spanish and Vietnamese,

1. CARE Program, for more information please call 1-866-743-2273
2. 1-2-3 Program, for more information please call 1-800-933-9555

SUCCESS Academy

Students Using Community and Culture for Equitable Success in School

Imagine a new small school designed by dedicated parents and teachers with the following characteristics:

- *Small* enough – about 200 students in a K-5 environment – where every child is known well by the adults at the school, a key factor in assuring that all students succeed.
- *A public school of choice* where parents, students, and teachers work together to create innovative learning communities.
- *Autonomous* with regards to issues of curriculum, school day schedule, budgeting, and staffing, while continuing to hold the schools to state standards.
- *Collaborative* development –the product of an active collaboration among parents, community members, and educators. The school is created from, and for, the community.
- *Project based learning* - learning from text, discussion, guest speakers, and manipulatives in the classroom and using the community as a learning laboratory.

SUCCESS Academy will open in August of 2006 on the Santee campus in the Franklin McKinley School District. Enrollment is on a first come, first serve basis for all students K-5. For more information call **Dave Herz 408 361-4323** or **Tina Ybarra 408 361-4342**. You can also check their website at: www.fmsdsuccess.org

San Jose CAL-SOP California Student Opportunity & Access Program

San Jose Cal-SOAP provides college information and assistance for students in the Greater San Jose area. The program provides outreach services to elementary, middle, high school and community college students who are low-income and/or first-generation college attendees.

The program provides hands-on workshops such as “[Cash for College Workshops](#)” and [College Advising Workshops](#) for students as well as parents so that all will be prepared for the college experience. In addition, to

fortify our students academically, tutoring services are available throughout many of our member schools. Please read through our [Getting Into College](#) sections, which cover the basic steps from scholarships to testing to college selection. A number of resources have been compiled on their website to help you plan your college experience. Please browse through the site to find what you need or [email one of our staff](#) with questions from their website at <http://www.sanjosecalsoap.com/>

San Jose CAL-SOP Services and Programs:

School Based Programs

- After-school homework center and tutoring
- College and academic advising
- Preparation for standardized testing
- Critical thinking enhancement

Region-wide activities

- I'm going to college – provides college and career exploration for fifth grade students
- College: Making It happen – help parents and students in sixth through eighth grade prepare for successful academic careers in high school and beyond
- Transfer: Making It Happen – assists high school seniors and community college students to transition to a four-year university or college
- Financial Aid Workshops – assists college-bound students and families in understanding financial aid options and resources and in filling out required applications
- Cash for College Clinics – provides step-by-step, line-by-line assistance to 12th graders and their parents on how to complete the Federal Application for federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

Special Activities

- Campus Tours
- College Fairs
- Parent Education and Support

Upcoming Events and Meetings

• City Council Meetings

The Council meets every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. & every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Council Chambers, San Jose City Hall.

• Affordable Housing Week

Please mark your calendars! The 3rd annual Affordable Housing Week is May 13-20th 2006. The events held during the week are mostly free and open to the public.

Affordable Housing Week is the result of a broad coalition of non-profits and individuals working together to advocate for practical solutions to the issues of housing and homelessness in Santa Clara County. Issues discussed will cover the full range of housing issues, from homelessness to first-time home ownership. The week includes more than 15 events and home ownership workshops.

Key events for 2006 include a tour of affordable housing developments in East San Jose, celebration of the City of San Jose's 10,000 affordable units, home ownership workshops, a best practices seminar on financing affordable housing, an affordable housing fair at Berryessa flea market and a photo display of affordable housing.

For more information, visit www.affordablehousingweek.org or call (408) 282-1133.

District 7 Neighborhood Association Meetings

Dates and locations are subject to change. Please contact associations to confirm meeting details.

Tully-Senter SNI NAC

Santee Community Action Center
(408) 277-2980
1st Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm

Lanai Neighborhood Association

Resources For Families and Communities
(408) 277-2982
2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm

Washington Area Community Coalition SNI NAC

(408) 277-5202
Alma Senior Center
2nd Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm

KONA SNI NAC Meeting (408) 277-2982

Boys & Girls Club

3rd Monday of every month at 6:30 pm

Alma Neighborhood Association

(408) 277-2982

Alma Senior Center

3rd Monday of every month at 7:00 pm

West Evergreen Neighborhood Association

(408) 277-2982

O.B. Whaley School

3rd Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm

Kennedy Neighborhood Association

(408) 277-2980

Kennedy Elementary School

3rd Wednesday of every month at 6:00 pm

Senter Creekside Neighborhood Association

St Maria Goretti Church

3rd Wednesday of Every Month 7:00 pm

Rocksprings Neighborhood Association

Social Services Agency (Community Room),

1919 Senter Road

4th Wednesday of every month, 6:30

(light dinner at 6 PM)

West Evergreen Neighborhood Action**Committee SNI NAC**

(408) 224-0415

O.B. Whaley School

4th Monday of every month at 6:30 pm

Announcements and Updates

- **Los Lagos Golf Course**

Los Lagos Golf Course, located in District 7, has been named winner of the Overall 2005 Environmental Leaders in Golf award—an award which comes from *Golf Digest Magazine*. Los Lagos' environmentally sound layout was designed to divert storm waters by spilling into three lakes located on the course and over 85% of Los Lagos is irrigated by recycled water. Seventy-five acres of riparian habitat were set aside, and approximately four acres have been planted to create additional habitat. In addition, native plants were germinated near the creek bank to promote preservation of the area while signs along the golf course have been posted to identify wildlife.

Despite its award-winning status, Los Lagos has been a recent source of discussion and frustration for many residents. In response to many complaints regarding poorly aimed and hazardous balls, additional netting on the perimeter holes of the course are being explored by Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services. A memo will be coming to City Council in June requesting authority to be delegated to the City Manager in order to negotiate and approve an Amendment to the Operations and Maintenance Agreement with Los Lagos, Inc. for management of the netting project at Los Lagos Golf Course.

- **Free Shade Trees**

NO SHADE? BLAME NOT THE SUN.....JUST PLANT A TREE!

Our City Forest has free shade trees NOW for...

1. Residents needing trees in the parking strip (the area between the sidewalk and the street)
2. Businesses needing trees in the public parking strips
3. Public schools needing trees in the school yards or along surrounding parking strips

Priority is given for requests from neighborhoods or schools needing 10 or more trees and which are located in the following areas:

- Within 2 miles of the Vasona Light Rail Corridor between downtown S.J. and downtown Campbell
- Within 2 miles of the Capitol Light Rail Corridor between Hostetter Rd. to Alum Rock Ave.

In addition to the trees, Our City Forest provides free stakes, technical assistance, permits, trained volunteers, planting demonstrations, and tree care education. Residents are encouraged to participate in the planting of their trees and will be required to sign an agreement to provide 3 years of tree care. Residents may call on Our City Forest for help regarding tree maintenance.

For a simple tree application, log on to **www.ourcityforest.org** or call Our City Forest at 998-7337.

Useful Numbers: City Wide Phone List

Call Center	277-4000
Non –Emergency	311
Graffiti/Litter	277-2758
Animal Care	578-7297
Child Abuse Reporting	299-2071
City Arborist	277-2762
Code Enforcement	277-4528
Crime Prevention	277-4133
Crime Stoppers	947-7867
Drug Hotline	971-3784
Domestic Violence Ctr.	277-3700
Department of Transportation	535-3850
Education, Office of	453-6500
Gang Hotline	277-4264
Garbage & Recycling	535-3515
Hazardous Materials	535-7750
Housing	975-4480
Neighborhood Development Center	723-4114
Parking Enforcement	277-5305
Senior Programs	277-4561
Sewer Problems	277-4373
Sidewalks	277-3158
Street Lights	277-5517
Street Maintenance	277-4373
Street Sweeping	535-3515
Volunteer San Jose	535-3500
Vehicle Abatement	277-4477
Yard Waste Collection	535-3515
Youth Services	535-3570

Future Topics

We hope you find District 7's newsletter helpful. We welcome any feedback you may have on the topics discussed. Please feel free to contact our office at your convenience.

If you would like to share announcements or post events from your neighborhood, please contact Myvan Khuu at (408) 535-4959 or email myvan.khuu@sanjoseca.gov

Once again, our office is **ALWAYS** open to you and we look forward to serving you.



District 7 Staff and Interns at the Great American Litter Pickup